

the Colorado Water Congress, and on the Advisory Committee for the Colorado State University Department of Engineering for Engineering Dean's Council. Ralph is also a life member of both the American Water Works and the National Water Resources Association.

In addition to his duties on a number of boards, Ralph serves southern Colorado as a water engineer as a member of the firm Adkins & Associates and has done so since 1983. Ralph took a brief break from Colorado and its water issues to serve his country in World War II. As a member of the U.S. Navy, Ralph proudly served his country as a line officer. Ralph is also known as a loving husband and devoted father of three and grandfather of four. He is also involved in his community as a member of the Masons and the Rotarian club.

Mr. Speaker, Ralph's dedication and commitment to improving the lives that are touched by Colorado water is an example to us all. It is the hard work and leadership that Ralph has provided not only to the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District but also the whole state that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. Thank you, Ralph, for all that you have done for Colorado and this nation and good luck in your future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF DAVID M. LAWRENCE, M.D., RETIRING CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF KAISER FOUNDATION HEALTH PLAN AND HOSPITALS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David M. Lawrence, M.D. on his retirement after 10 years of outstanding achievements as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals.

Given Kaiser Permanente's vast influence on American medicine, Dr. Lawrence's successful stewardship of his organization constitutes a contribution not only to Kaiser Permanente's 8.4 million members nationwide, but to all Americans. He is to be commended for the positive impact that Kaiser Permanente has had on the quality and affordability of health care in the United States.

Dr. Lawrence was named CEO in 1991 and Chairman of the Board in 1992. Prior to assuming his current role, Dr. Lawrence served KFHP/KFH as vice chairman and chief operating officer (1990–91); and senior vice president and regional manager in Colorado (1985–88). He also was vice president and area medical director for Northwest Permanente in Portland (1981–85). Dr. Lawrence also served as health officer and director of Human Services in Multnomah County, Oregon; on the faculty of Department of Health Services and Director of MEDEX in the school of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Washington; as advisor to the Ministry of Health of Chile; and as Peace Corps Physician in the Dominican Republic and Washington D.C.

Dr. Lawrence is a graduate of Amherst College (BA), the University of Kentucky (MD),

and the University of Washington (MPH). He is Board Certified in General Preventive Medicine (Johns Hopkins and University of Washington). He is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha (Medical Honorary Society) and the Institute of Medicine (National Academy of Sciences). He currently serves on the Boards of Agilent Technologies, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Raffles Medical Group of Singapore, The Rockefeller Foundation, RAND Health Advisory Board, the Bay Area Council, and the Hospital Research and Educational Trust (AHA). He previously served as chair of the International Federation of Health Funds and the University of California's President's Board on Research and Economic Development.

Dr. Lawrence is nationally known for his advocacy for improvements in the American health care delivery system. He served as a member of the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Quality of Health Care in America that produced the landmark report on patient safety, "To Err is Human," and the blueprint for improving America's health care system, "The Quality Chasm."

Dr. Lawrence has been active in San Francisco Bay Area community affairs, serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the United Way of the Bay Area and chair of the annual campaign for the United Way in Alameda County and the San Francisco Bay Area. Dr. Lawrence has been recognized as the Outstanding Alumnus of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Washington (1980); and the Outstanding Alumnus of the College of Medicine, University of Kentucky (1995); and has received honorary degrees from Amherst College (Doctor of Science, 1994), and Colgate University (Doctor of Letters, 1995).

Dr. Lawrence's achievements have improved both Kaiser Permanente and American health care. In his 10-year tenure as Chairman and CEO, he:

1. Made the delivery of quality health care the single most important value of Kaiser Permanente and led Kaiser Permanente to be a quality leader in U.S. medicine.
2. Focused both the nation's and the organization's attention on the issue of patient safety and the need for reforms in the nation's health care delivery system.
3. Championed the expanded use of information technology for clinical care in Kaiser Permanente and the nation as a whole.
4. Partnered with AFL-CIO President John Sweeney to conceive and initiate the Labor and Management Partnership, the only such partnership in the health care industry.
5. Kept Kaiser Permanente's diversity efforts at the forefront of the organization's agenda and made it one of the most inclusive workplaces in the nation.
6. Redesigned Kaiser Permanente's Community Benefit Program to enhance its value to the communities it serves.
7. Led Kaiser Permanente through the turnaround years of financial difficulties and returned it to financial stability.
8. Guided the development of the Kaiser Permanente's National Partnership Agreement, out of which grew the Kaiser Permanente Partnership Group, the joint leadership body that sets direction for the organization.
9. Created and developed a strong senior leadership team from both inside and outside the organization.

10. Created a strong organization that functions with a national focus while maintaining responsiveness to the needs of the individual communities it serves.

We are all fortunate to have had Dr. Lawrence at the helm of Kaiser Permanente and the forefront of American health care. I have valued his insights and perspective during his years at Kaiser Permanente. I have every confidence that he will continue to contribute to the health of all Americans and citizens throughout the world in his post-retirement activities.

TRAIN SECURITY BREACH

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw your attention to the unparalleled risk of transporting spent nuclear fuel to Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

The DOE has promised that shipments of high level nuclear waste are among the most secure cargo in the US.

However, just yesterday we discovered that two inmates from a North Carolina prison illegally boarded a train carrying spent nuclear fuel last month.

Had these escapees intended to do great harm, the results could have been devastating.

Although estimates anticipate over 400 nuclear waste shipping accidents to occur during the next 38 years of delivery to Yucca Mountain, there is absolutely no way to estimate that a terrorist will not board a train carrying spent fuel—and present our country with another tremendous tragedy.

Mr. Speaker, let us not give terrorists an easy target.

Vote no on transporting nuclear fuel throughout this Great Nation; through our neighborhoods, past our homes, schools, parks and waterways.

Vote no on House Joint Resolution 87.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A. TRISTANO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 2, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding individual who has dedicated his life to serve and protect the citizens of Pueblo, Colorado. Corporal Robert A. "Bob" Tristano of the Pueblo Police Department has faithfully served his fellow Coloradans for over thirty years. After a long and successful career as one of Colorado's finest, Bob announced his retirement from the force in December of last year. As Bob looks forward to retirement, I would like to take this time to highlight his service to his community.

Bob began his service with the force in 1968 as a patrolman and within five years was promoted to the rank of corporal. For over twenty years, he remained active in the patrol division, guarding our streets and providing